

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

62.71

U.S. Department of Agriculture
LIBRARY
Washington, D. C.

WALNUT CULTURE

ON THE

PACIFIC COAST

FRANQUETTE

THE VARIETY

FOR THE

NORTH AND SOUTH

By special contract the sale of the Pure Strain Franquette,
as described herein is granted to the



CAPITAL CITY NURSERY CO.

OREGON NURSERY COMPANY

SALEM, OREGON

Franquette

Franquette

Franquette

Franquette

Franquette

Franquette



A view of Mrs. Vrooman's Franquette walnut orchard with Santa Rosa hills on right back ground, and city reservoir on left. On part of these hills are grown peach, prune and apple orchards and vineyards, balance covered with a luxuriant growth of live oak and Oregon fir trees.

Walnut Culture, Varieties, Soil, Cultivation, Etc.

In view of the great interest that is now being taken in walnut culture in the Willamette valley and the Northwest, and the very general desire for reliable, helpful information, we here present our special pamphlet descriptive of the Franquette walnut. In preparing this work we have kept in mind the fact that walnut culture is only in its infancy and general knowledge along this line limited.

We have personally visited the walnut growing districts of the Pacific coast, weighing the merits and demerits of the different varieties produced, and to our own experience we here add articles published by reliable and successful growers.

That the Franquette walnut is to become a leader in horticulture and a great source of income to the Pacific coast states, we have no doubt. It is the variety possessing all essential qualities needed to place walnut culture on a paying basis; the nut for the North as well as the South.

For several years we have been carefully searching for grafted trees of distinct strains of the best types of the French walnuts as our importations from France had been very unsatisfactory, inasmuch as we were unable to get a guaranty from French dealers or nurserymen that the nuts sold by them were grown on grafted trees, propagated in a direct line from the original tree of the variety sold.

Although constantly in search of grafted groves of the French varieties, we were unable to locate any on the Pacific coast until our Mr. L. Girod, who was traveling in California during the Fall of 1905, happened to learn that Mrs. E. M. Vrooman of Santa Rosa was the possessor of a very fine grove of Franquettes, all of which were grafted trees. He at once proceeded to investigate this grove and the success attained by this lady, and upon a personal visit to the ranch was very much surprised to discover the finest strain of walnuts that it had ever been his privilege to look upon, although he has traveled extensively in Europe, Mexico and the United States.

This investigation of Mr. Girod resulted in the purchase of all the nuts and scions that could be secured at that date of the 1905 crop, and in addition he made a contract for the entire product of the nuts grown in this orchard for three years, together with all scions to be cut for grafting purposes.

We hope it may be of especial interest to the reader and prospective planter to know something of the history of the celebrated Franquette walnut orchard from which we secure the nuts and scions to produce in our nurseries, trees, that will thrive and bear fruit over the greatest area of the various climes of North America.

Some time after the death of her husband (the late Senator Vrooman of California), Mrs. Vrooman, in looking over her farm near Santa Rosa, decided that the land was too valuable as real estate to be used for ordinary crops. Being of a nature studious and painstaking, her attention was drawn to the few thriving walnut orchards of the neighborhood; these however were planted in mixed varieties, uncertain of bearing on account of non-resistance to late frosts, and when bearing producing a nut of inferior quality. She therefore determined, if possible, to

find out for herself the tree that would be hardy, thrifty, a heavy bearer, and especially one that would remain dormant until late in the spring, thereby escaping all dangers of frost. That she has been fortunate in her research the reader can judge.

She set out to visit the many renowned walnut orchards of the Los Angeles country, but was not satisfied with the general outlook of things there more than in Central California, until one day while visiting a place owned by a German, she discovered there a number of walnut trees that look unusually healthy and thrifty, and from inquiries was assured that although the blight prevailed in the region, these trees were entirely free from it, and were not only good growers but heavy bearers of the most excellent nuts.

She returned to Central California, where then lived a noted horticulturist who was experimenting in the culture of walnuts, of which he possessed all the leading market varieties. These different varieties of nuts were kept strictly separate in bins, and Mrs. Vrooman was cheerfully given the privilege to study at leisure the characteristics of each. Her decision of selection was given in favor of the Franquette, the tree of the same variety she had already chosen as the best grower, while visiting the South.

She at once purchased all there was to spare of the grafted Franquette walnut trees and turned these over to her able manager, Mr. J. F. Burgess, to plant out on the ranch.

That results have justified this careful research, no one will gainsay. The second year after planting the 1,000 young trees produced (besides plenty for home use) 90 pounds for the market. The crop increased rapidly with the size and age of the trees, until the past season (1905) one tree alone, an especially good specimen, bore 100 pounds of choice, marketable nuts.

**IN A RECENT ARTICLE ON WALNUT CULTURE, PUBLISHED IN THE SACRAMENTO BEE, MRS. VROOMAN
THE OWNER OF WALNUTMERE FARM, SAYS:**

"If there are no late Spring frosts to be encountered, the choice of variety takes a wide range including the beautiful Santa Rosa Soft Shell, the Santa Barbara (improved) and the Southern California Soft Shells; besides all of the French varieties, chief of which may be mentioned the Franquette; also the Mayette a shy bearer, and the Praeparturien, too small for commerce.

If late Spring frosts are to be reckoned with, a French variety must be chosen, because these bloom from two to three weeks later in the Spring than any of the English [Soft shell (?)] varieties and so escape frosts and insure a reliable annual crop.

Of the French varieties, "**Walnutmere**" happily has only the Franquette, a large, full, white meated and fine flavored nut.

For a commercial orchard the variety chosen must bear freely, and be large enough to commend itself among its walnut competitors. **The Franquette, with me, has fulfilled all these requirements.**

Those intending to plant walnuts need take no alarm from the theory advanced by many that by removing your young trees you endanger their future by cutting off the tap root. In every forest some trees have been torn out by their roots at the mandate of age, wind, lightning, or some other cause, and the center of such tree trunks is decayed and hollow. Its tap root long since finished its mission to hold the tree in place and provide nourishment until its roaming, far-outreaching laterals or side roots could take up the forage for life food. The center, or down-growing tap root, has exhausted the soil life about it circumscribed self and died. Taking a lesson from the forest, prune, or cut off your tap root in the nursery rows and encourage it to multiply itself and to send out laterals early, since it is desirable to have an earlier return from a new planting than the forest method would give.



This picture represents Mr. J. F. Burgess who has ably managed Mrs. Vrooman's Franquette walnut orchard from the outset. We know of no one more careful and conscientious in the care of an orchard, also enthusiastic as to prospects of walnut culture of a pure strain, than Mr. Burgess.

In the foreground of the picture, is the best bearing walnut tree of the orchard. It is named "Queen Mother" This tree has borne since four years old, heavily, yielding last year fully 100 pounds of choice nuts.



"Walnutmere," for such is the name chosen for the orchard farm, this picture represents the residence, walnut drier and all out-buildings. A flavor of romance attaches to Walnutmere in the possession of its historic treasure. An old adobe building, (notice the same indicated by the white cross). This and its neighbor just across the line, are the only adobe relics of the old Spanish regime, of which the Rancho de Cabeza was a factor, Madame Carillo its builder, was the sister of Madam Vallejo. General Vallejo obtained from the Spanish Government, two extensive grants one for his wife and one for her sister. Madame Carillo was the Grandmother of Romoldo Pochico, one of California's honored Governors and Congressmen. In his young boyhood he played about the little adobe while it was being built for his aunt. This history makes the adobe greatly appreciated by the present owner of Walnutmere.

In conclusion, to the would be walnut orchardist, would say enter upon your task with enthusiasm, tireless vigilance and ready adaptability. There lies before you a possible and a very profitable rich harvest of those joyful hours of pleasant labor well rewarded, a harvest of golden ducats, and a strong, clear consciousness that your world is the richer for your efforts."

A NOTABLE EVENT.

The Public Planting of 5000 Pounds of Franquette Walnuts Grown on Grafted Trees.

From Oregon Agriculturist and Rural Northwest, May 1, 1906.

The most noted horticultural event of the season was the public planting by the Oregon Nursery Company, at Salem, Oregon, April 14th, of 5000 pounds of Franquette walnuts all grown on grafted trees. The Salem Statesman of April 15th well said of the event: "An industry was born yesterday at Salem that will make of the Willamette valley the greatest walnut-growing section of the United States or of the world. The industry was sometime in being conceived but its birth was yesterday, Saturday, April 14th, the day before Easter. Mark the date."

At eleven o'clock on that day a number of the prominent citizens of Salem were conveyed to the nursery grounds, where they found two large wagon loads of walnuts ready to be planted and the nursery field force of about one hundred men prepared to do the work. After the planting was done everybody had lunch, which included both Franquette walnuts and Oregon-grown walnuts from Mr. Prince's grove at Dundee.

Mr. M. McDonald, President of the Oregon Nursery Co., briefly stated that the occasion for calling the visitors together was the founding on a great commercial scale of an industry destined to be one of the most important in the Willamette valley—the growing in a scientific manner of a great volume of walnuts, uniform in size, flavor and shape, so as to command a market.

Mr. McDonald then introduced Mr. Leon Girod, who told of his visit to the Franquette walnut grove of Mrs. Emily M. Vrooman, the only large grove of grafted walnuts in California. The trees in this grove are all Franquette and are all of the same strain. The nuts are of good size, excellent shape and a rich, nutty flavor. The Oregon Nursery Co. has secured the whole crop from Mrs. Vrooman's grove for three years, and in doing so had secured the best that could be secured in all the world. Mr. Girod predicted that the work which the Oregon Nursery Company is doing will make the Willamette valley the great walnut-growing country of the world.

ADDRESS BY J. R. SHEPARD.

Mr. J. R. Shepard, who always has something good to say, spoke as follows:

"One advantage resulting from long, continuous residence in one locality, is the fact that one may watch the birth, struggle for existence, growth, and final realization of established supremacy, of the various industries which mark a people's greatness; and perhaps claim a part in it all.

"I was not present when the Creator first scattered a few seeds of the fir, cedar and spruce in the shadows of our snow-capped peaks, that have multiplied into the greatest lumber region in the world, nor when the first Chinook salmon darted across the bar into the Columbia river and literally "laid" the foundations of our magnificent fisheries. These two industries I confess antedate my arrival upon the scene.

"But I was here in the early eighties when we awoke to the possibilities of prune culture, and began planting by the thousands the trees that now are making Oregon famous for its "Oregon Prune." Well do I remember the stirring meetings of our horticultural societies and the character of information asked for: First there were questions pertaining to varieties, distance apart to set trees; then how early should we let them bear and how

to prune; and finally, about markets. I have watched the prune industry from below the ground up to its present magnificent condition, and am proud to say that today Salem, Oregon, has a deserved reputation as the center of the finest prune district anywhere and the home of the most famous brand in existence.

"Another interest, that of dairying, is yet in its infancy, and we are watching with keen interest the growth of the young giant that promises to rejuvenate the impoverished wheat field and pocket books of the farmers of the Willamette valley.

"Gentlemen, today I am glad to join with you in celebrating the birth of another great industry, that of walnut culture. There has been some helter-skelter, bushwhacking method of selling and planting of walnuts in the Willamette valley, but with little intelligence save in two or three instances, the result of which is likely to prove very disappointing in the next few years.

"The Oregon Nursery Company, with prophetic vision to foresee, and the wisdom and energy to execute, has grasped the situation, and today has laid scientifically the foundation of an industry that promises to take its place with those I have already mentioned.

"Who can estimate, gentlemen, the future greatness of a State excelling in its fisheries, its lumber, its dairying, its fruit and its walnut groves as well as in several other respects?

"Now, I wish to add just a word in commendation of the gentlemen who have tendered us this banquet: while they naturally hope to realize a fair financial return for their labors, they have a reputation at stake, and will make it possible for the people of the Northwest to raise here one strain of walnuts, and that the best strain, which will go out in car-load and train-load lots. These men, let us hope, represent the typical Oregonian of the future, a distinction we may all covet."

REMARKS BY MR. PARK.

Mr. Chas. A. Park, Commissioner of the Oregon State Board of Horticulture, was introduced.

He warned purchasers against promiscuous walnut tree sellers. He said purchasers must be careful about the walnut trees they buy, else they may lose, years of valuable time in getting into the industry. He said they better pay \$2.50 for grafted trees than 15 cents for some that have been offered for sale.

That the purpose of planting walnut trees is to produce a good commercial nut, one that would command the best of prices, and one that is sought first by the buyers. We may see the day when nuts of first quality will command a cent per pound in advance of any inferior quality, that cent may be all the profit there is in growing the nuts. Any nursery that will handle only the varieties that will give the best results in this climate and refrain from handling the inferior varieties is to be commended, for they are the benefactors who will do this valley incalculable good.

Mr. Park said there was no doubt concerning the fact that the Oregon Nursery Co. is on the right track in this respect. The grafted tree is too costly for general commercial purposes, and the second generation tree is the next best, and nearly as good.

OTHER SPEAKERS.

Lloyd T. Reynolds, Ex-commissioner of the Oregon State Board of Horticulture, called attention to the great opportunities for development in the industry of raising walnuts. The United States imported in the year ending June 30, 1905, 21,347,140 pounds of walnuts and the amount imported is increasing rapidly from year to year. As an indication of what may be done he cited the prune industry. Not very many years ago the United States was importing regularly great quantities of prunes most of them of inferior quality. Now we have become exporters of prunes on a large scale, our exports for the year ending June 30, 1905, being 54,993 849 pounds. In due course of time the United States will be exporting walnuts



5000 lbs. of special strain Franquette walnuts on the road to the Nursery, Salem, Oregon, April 14, 1906.



AT THE NURSERY

A group of prominent citizens inspecting and sampling the Franquette nuts before they were placed in the ground on Saturday, April 14, 1906.

Ex-Governor T. T. Geer was especially pleased at the inauguration of walnut growing because it will aid to diversify agriculture here, and this is what we need more than any other one thing.

H. S. Gile said that growth in consumption of walnuts in the United States is rapid, and the amount used has doubled within a few years. In Salem four times as many are used now as a few years ago and they are now received in carload lots. His company had in the past year shipped thirty carloads of prunes to England and Germany whereas only a few years ago it was not easy for a buyer at Salem to get together a carload for shipment.

J. H. Albert said he had a Franquette walnut tree in his yard which has never been cultivated. It is now 18 years old and last year bore about four bushels of nuts. Judge John H. Scott, Mayor Frank W. Waters, Hon. T. B. Kay, Col. E. Hofer, and Messrs. Geo. F. Rodgers and Chas. E. Cutter, made remarks appropriate to the occasion.

In concluding the exercises Mr. McDonald predicted that within a few years the Willamette valley will be shipping car loads and train loads of Franquette walnuts.

A fine lot of photographs were taken of the nuts, the planting of the nuts, and other interesting features of the day's work.

The public celebration of the planting of these nuts was a happy conception of the management of the Oregon Nursery Company. Publicity is the order of the day, and the Nursery Company has taken extraordinary pains to give the public the fullest possible opportunity to learn all about these nuts and to see that they are just what they are represented to be. The 5000 pounds of nuts planted April 14, should result in 125,000 trees. There will not be in existence anywhere any other stock of trees grown from nuts raised on grafted trees of the Franquette or any other hardy variety which can compare in magnitude with this.

FRANQUETTE; DISTINCT IN CHARACTERISTICS.

The Franquette possesses distinct characteristics, the tree is very hardy, withstanding the cold winters of Eastern France where it originated. It is a clean, vigorous grower, has never been attacked by disease, a late bloomer, escaping late frosts; a regular and abundant bearer. The hull, or outside covering, is much thicker than the soft shell varieties and consequently the nuts do not sunburn during hot spells when most other varieties burn very badly.

The Franquette is the ideal nut for dessert and confectionery use; it is of large, uniform size, long in form, and has a smooth, well filled shell of medium thickness which insures its safe shipment to market. Being long in form it carries from one to two ounces more meat per pound of nuts than the round, or chunky sorts. Its pellicle is pale yellow in color, meat of exquisitely rich, oily, nutty flavor.

The Franquette is the peer of all French varieties and the heaviest bearer; unlike the Mayette which produces a nut of fair quality but is a decidedly shy bearer, nor like the Praeparturien or other early blooming soft shell varieties which only occasionally bear a crop of nuts of mixed sizes and inferior quality.

The tender soft shell varieties that have been planted in Southern California, must be left severely alone in the North in order to insure an annual and successful crop. First, because the trees of the soft shell kinds are not hardy enough to withstand our coldest winters, and because they bloom too early and are almost sure to be caught by the frost.

As French nurserymen and dealers cannot guarantee their stock as produced from the original tree of the variety sold, can one afford to plant trees from French stocks which may include many types and varieties under one name, on the presumption that the trees produced from these nuts will be second generation, and uniformly adhere to their type? We think not. To do so would surely be a great injury to the future of this industry and one that could not be remedied in a lifetime, entailing a loss of thousands of dollars to walnut growers of the Willamette Valley and the Northwest.

Planters will readily appreciate the importance to the Northwest, in the beginning of the planting of commercial groves, of securing the very best strain of the Franquette variety obtainable anywhere, so that when these trees come into bearing, and the walnuts are ready for marketing they may be sold as a distinct strain at a much higher price than stock grown on indiscriminate seedling trees.

Judge Leib of San Jose, who has made a special study of the walnut in every condition for several years, has obtained samples and definite particulars from many American and foreign growers, and with a careful personal inspection of the best orchards of California has, after the most severe tests, concluded that for growing in Northern and Central California but two varieties need be considered, the Franquette and the Santa Rosa.

He says: "The Franquette, being a well known, late blooming French walnut, grown in grafted orchards; the Santa Rosa, grown mostly by seedlings, but on account of its tendency to start early in the spring, even in California, not considered profitable. The Franquette seems also well adapted to some of the larger interior valleys."

With many reports from growers residing in various parts of the Northwest, and our own personal observation, we come to the conclusion that the flavor of the nuts, especially the French varieties grown in Western Oregon and Washington is superior to that of nuts of the same varieties imported from France or grown in California; certainly of much better quality than those which can be bought in the stores.

PLANT LATE BLOOMING VARIETIES.

The uncertainty of a crop is often owing to the early blooming varieties planted, which start into growth at the first warm spell in the latter part of the winter and almost invariably this tender early growth is killed by frost. Hence the trees bear no fruit.

Planting in the Northwest, until recently, has been limited to a small area. There is needed a tree of strong distinct characteristics, hardy, late to start into growth, and bearing a nut of good size and best quality. These characteristics the Franquette possesses to the highest degree.

We have reports from Whitman county in Eastern Washington, (where the thermometer sometimes goes down to 20 degrees below zero) that a number of Franquette trees are doing admirably, producing a nut as fine as was ever produced in California.

Figures below will quite reassure the timid planter:

Nuts imported into United States from Europe	1902	lbs. shelled	2,224,879	lbs. not shelled	9,702,558	total	11,927,402
	1903	"	3,035,970	"	8,936,438	"	11,872,408
	1904	"	3,579,941	"	19,456,012	"	23,033,953
	1905	"	4,198,009	"	16,312,138	"	20,490,147

These figures from the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, Dept. of Commerce and Labor, Washington, D. C. must be regarded as correct.

With this deficiency in our production of nuts, and an ever increasing and varied use of this nutritive and wholesome delicacy, and with our climatic conditions almost perfect, our prospects as walnut growers are unexcelled.

The Willamette valley is especially and most fortunately adapted to this culture. On its slopes and well drained fields the nut tree will find ready sustenance, and in a decade will constitute the revenue of many a far seeing farmer; a good income for old age.

Unlike other fruit trees, whose size and quality of fruit invariably degenerates as the tree passes a certain age, the nut tree bears heavier crops as it attains greater age. In Spain and the south of France there are trees believed to be over 300 years old which bear from fifteen to eighteen bushels of nuts each, annually.

In Whittier, California, is a famous walnut tree owned by A. R. Rideout, who has leased it for a term of years at \$500.

LETTER FROM HENRY E. DOSCH, FORMER SECRETARY OF OREGON STATE BOARD OF HORTICULTURE,
DIRECTOR OF EXHIBITS LEWIS AND CLARK FAIR, AND A PIONEER WALNUT GROWER.

Portland, May 1, 1906.

The Oregon Nursery Company,
Salem, Oregon.

My Dear Sirs:

It was with sincere regret, that I was unable to accept your kind invitation to be present at so auspicious an occasion as the planting of the 5000 pounds first generation Franquette Walnuts, the growing of which is so near to my heart, but a very important committee meeting prevented my leaving the city.

It is said that every man has a "hobby" and you know that walnut growing is "my" hobby; It is further said, that every man with a hobby is a "crank"; that being so, I am also a crank, but please remember that cranks turn the world. I read with great pleasure the many nice things said about walnut growing by the various speakers at that time to which kindly permit me to add a few words from the standpoint of practical experience.

Eighteen years ago, I retired from business and devoted myself since to horticultural pursuits; among other fruits, my first thought drifted to the growing of walnuts, but my investigations proved rather discouraging as many nut trees were growing in this city, Milwaukie, Oregon City and other places, then 20 to 30 years old and had never borne any nuts. I concluded there was some reason for this, not chargeable to our soil, and learned, that these trees were the "Los Angeles" the most tender variety of walnuts, growing only in Southern California, brought there by the Catholic Friars from Spain; however even there they are now discarded, owing to their irregular blooming, the staminate or male blossoms, appearing usually six weeks ahead of the pistilate or female blossoms, hence no pollination and no nuts. It became therefore necessary to look for some varieties, where the male and female bloomed together to insure proper pollination and nuts.

This led me to investigate further and I bought and planted a number of grafted French walnut trees, for which I paid one dollar and fifty cents per tree, including Praeparturiens, Serotinas, Franquette, Mayette, Parisienne and Chaberte. Out of which I finally selected the Franquette and Mayette as best adapted for our soils, climate and market, with some Chaberte for confectionaries' use, giving preference in the order named, as I think the **Franquette is somewhat hardier, regular bloomer and a little more prolific.**

Feeling that the high prices charged for grafted trees, walnut culture would not become so popular as it deserved, I experimented further by growing trees from seed, for which purpose I secured some "First generation" nuts of Franquette and Mayette, growing some 300 "second generation" trees. While on this point allow me to say a few words on the "Generations", as this point is not clearly understood. First generation nuts are produced on the original trees, or on trees, grafted from the original trees; these nuts when planted produce "*Second generation*" trees, and the nuts from these second generation trees, are a little larger than the original or first generation, which is due to our peculiar soil and climatic conditions, so well adapted to walnut culture; trees grown from second generation nuts retrograde very rapidly, producing nuts not half so large as even first generation and finally run out altogether hence we must plant "*Second generation*" trees, if we desire the best results and nothing but the best should or can be satisfactory.

In order to thoroughly test the adaptability of the Franquette and Mayette to our various soils and sections, I gave away several hundred yearling "*Second generation*" trees and have received most gratifying reports, whether planted on Puget Sound, Columbia River valley, Coast counties, red hill lands or on hollow lands in the Willamette valley.

However in walnut growing three things are most essential and it is difficult to say which is most important, but they are, soil, generation and variety.

While walnuts do well on all soils, even rocky soil, they are grateful to kind treatment by planting in fairly rich soils, but there must be *no hardpan*. The subsoil must be loose and open, so the taproot can grow down as far as it desires, for as soon as it strikes hardpan, the tree stops growing and of course lessens the nut crop. In fact it is suicidal to plant nut trees on soil underlaid with hardpan.

The trees should be "*Second generation*" either grafted or grown from first generation nuts. Varieties: Franquette, Mayette and a few Chaberte.

There has been considerable controversy about the trees grown from seed of first generation bearing smaller nuts than grafted trees. I have not found it so, for I had just as large and fine nuts on my trees grown from first generation seed, as those from grafted trees, but also found that both kinds have some small nuts, as well as large nuts, which led me again to study that point and have reached the conclusion, that the difference in size is due to pollination and starvation.

When in the Spring the pistilate blossoms appear, they usually come in pairs, and generally are of equal size until they reach the size of peas, when quite frequently one of them forges ahead in growth and vigor, by being better pollinated and being stronger uses more nourishment, or in other words the smaller one is starved out, makes little growth and in consequence produces a smaller nut. It seems to be the Law of Nature "The survival of the fittest".

Walnut growing under proper conditions, is as profitable, if not more so than any other part of fruit raising and as Oregon imports annually over four hundred thousand dollars worth of walnuts, it seems a good business proposition.

Yours truly,

HENRY E. DOSCH.

REMARKS BY FELIX GILLET, NEVADA CITY, CALIF., A NOTED AUTHORITY ON WALNUT CULTURE.

I have found, I think, after years of expectation, that the states of Oregon and Washington are singularly adapted to the raising of walnuts, thanks to the vegetation of French kinds, though late to start in growth mature the nuts very well.

It will be news, I expect to many of your readers to hear of the great Northwest having developed by degrees to a regular walnut growing district. The walnuts raised in that part of the Pacific coast compare most favorably with any samples sent to me from any parts of this state, and the walnuts grown in the Willamette valley, Oregon, have the advantage over the walnut grown in Southern California in having a smooth white shell, without a prominent seam, while the meat is fat, the pellicle of a pale yellow and the quality fine.

Oregon Nursery Company,
Salem, Oregon.

Grants Pass, Oregon, May 1, 1906.

Dear Sirs:

Yours of the 21st ult. at hand and I want to thank you for sending the sample of nuts. I am showing them to every one that I think is interested in nut culture and I am sure there will be some planting done here this next Fall in this line.

I will be very glad to get any literature on nut culture that you may have or get in the future. I have satisfied myself that this particular strain of the Franquette which you have planted is the best that has ever been offered for sale. You may place my order for 600 trees at this time, but I am sure I will have to increase it when I measure my ground which I aim to set.

Yours truly,

E. P. DIXON,
Dentist



In the Nursery preparing to distribute the First Generation nuts for planting, Salem, Oregon, April 14, 1906.



Group of prominent Salem citizens at "Hotel Willamette" after the banquet, April 14, 1906.

WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT OUR PURE STRAIN OF FRANQUETTE WALNUTS FROM RURAL NORTH-WEST REPORT FRUIT GROWERS ASSOCIATION SALEM, OREGON, MARCH 15, 1906.

A farmers' institute was held at Salem, Oregon, March 9 and 10 under the auspices of the Oregon Agricultural College and the Salem Grange. By request of the fruit growers in the vicinity of Salem, one half of the time was given to the fruit growing industry and addresses were delivered by C. E. Hoskins, of Gold Hill on Horticultural Interests in Southern Oregon; H. C. Atwell, of Forest Grove on Organization and Affiliation of Local Horticultural Societies; E. C. Armstrong on Why Every Fruit Tree Should be Sprayed; Prof. A. B. Cordley on Orchard Pests; W. G. Allen, Eugene, on Canneries; D. C. Van Dorn, of Dayton, on Growing an Apple Orchard; F. M. McElfresh, of Salem, on Pruning and H. M. Williamson, on Oregon's Old Apple Orchards.

The Oregon Nursery Co. showed its enterprise in a characteristic way by presenting to each charter member two Franquette walnuts grown on grafted trees. All of the members were conveyed to the nursery office and found ranged there the long array of bags containing the crop of nuts grown by a lady in Santa Rosa county, California, who has the only large grove of grafted walnut trees of any of the French varieties of which we have any knowledge. The Oregon Nursery Co. not only secured the last year's crop from this grove but have contracted for the whole crop for three years to come with the exclusive right to use scions from the grove during that time. The bags containing the 5000 pounds of nuts were all opened and the members were invited to select for themselves the two nuts to which each was entitled. So uniform were the nuts in size that there was no occasion to waste time in this work and this great array of very large nuts of uniform size and shape was one of the most striking spectacles which has been seen in Oregon, well worthy in its line of comparison, with the magnificent display of apples which Hood River makes at its fruit shows. The Nursery Co. first suggested that each member eat one nut and plant the other, but a happier thought for the recipients of the nuts led them to provide a liberal supply of nuts grown by Mr. Thos. Prince at Dundee for sampling to show the superior quality of Oregon grown nuts of the French varieties. They also furnished for sampling nuts grown on a tree within a few rods of their office of the Santa Barbara or Southern California type of nuts—one of the few trees of that variety which bears in Oregon. The nuts of the latter were fully up to the standard of the nuts commonly sold here and grown in Southern California, but were decidedly inferior to those grown by Mr. Prince, both in average size and in quality. The Franquette nuts obtained from Sonoma County, California, are practically identical in quality with those grown by Mr. Prince and have the advantage of being uniformly large and of one size. Another interesting exhibit made by the Oregon Nursery Co. was a display of other nuts imported from France for planting. These nuts, while sent as nuts grown on grafted trees, do not have in any of the varieties obtained that uniformity of size and shape characteristic of the big lot of Franquettes. Secretary McGill, after the nuts had been selected, advised that they be held until the weather begins to get warm in the early part of April, then soaked in water three or four days and planted. If put in the ground while it is cold nuts sometimes rot instead of germinating.

The members of the society were also taken through the great packing house of the company and even those who live in the immediate vicinity of Salem were suprised at the magnitude of the business and the system and organization for handling the trees.

EXTRACT FROM AN EDITORIAL IN THE OREGON AGRICULTURIST, FEBRUARY 16, 1906.

Long experience in France and this country has shown that the walnut seedlings to give at all satisfactory returns should be grown from nuts grown on grafted trees. Trees so grown produce nuts which vary much less in size and shape than those raised from nuts grown on seedling trees.

A COMPARATIVE TABLE OF CLIMATIC CONDITIONS IN THE SONOMA AND WILLAMETTE VALLEYS.

The following comparative tables, taken from the reports of the United States Weather Bureau at Santa Rosa, California (where the grafted walnut orchard of Mrs. E. M. Vrooman is thriving), and at Salem, Oregon, will prove conclusively the similarity in temperature and rainfall between the Sonoma Valley, California, Western Oregon, Washington and British Columbia.

AVERAGE RAINFALL IN INCHES

	Jan.	Feb.	Mch.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Santa Rosa, California,	5.97:	5.05:	4.87:	1.95:	1.62:	0.17:	0.07:	0.01:	0.60:	2.26:	3.54:	5.25:
Salem, Oregon,	5.20:	4.30:	4.53:	3.71:	3.20:	1.41:	0.27:	0.43:	1.64:	2.94:	7.34:	6.61:

AVERAGE MEAN TEMPERATURE IN DEGREES FAHRENHEIT

Santa Rosa, California,	46.3:	47.5:	51.1:	53.37:	58.1:	63.9:	65.1:	63.5:	65.5:	60.3:	52.8:	46.5:
Salem, Oregon,	40.6:	42.3:	45.6:	49.6:	55.7:	60.9:	65.2:	65.8:	59.8:	53.1:	45.1:	41.6:

At Santa Rosa thrive the identical fruits, apples, pears, plums, prunes, cherries, peaches, quinces, small fruits, etc., that are also grown in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and British Columbia.

In the forests grow the pine, Oregon fir, oak, etc.

FROM THE OREGON AGRICULTURIST, MAY 1, 1906.

An event of horticultural importance took place at Salem two weeks ago when the Oregon Nursery Company planted enough walnuts grown on grafted trees to ensure the raising of 125,000 trees. There is a natural tendency to compare the walnut-planting boom now under way in Oregon with the prune-planting boom of fifteen years ago. A comparison, however, of the matter published at the present time with reference to the walnut industry with that published fifteen years ago as to the prune industry will quickly convince anyone that we are proceeding in a very sane way now as compared with the prune-planting days. The prune-planting boom came at a time when nearly everybody was more or less crazed by the spirit of speculation and nearly anyone could be induced to believe marvelous stories of sure profits to be realized. There is very little danger of over-planting of walnuts at the present time. The danger is that many will plant trees of the wrong kind or plant in the wrong place. Those who take any pains to inform themselves as to the walnut industry before buying trees can not fail to have their attention called to these points. There is no way of protecting those who go it blind in such matters and the only sympathy they deserve is that bestowed on all who are so foolish as to think they know so much already that they do not need to learn anything. The systematic and organized sale of a great quantity of trees of uniform type and specially suited to this country will in itself in a great measure protect even this class in the matter of trees.

FROM THE PACIFIC RURAL PRESS OF FEBRUARY 3, 1906, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

The Franquette walnut, a French variety, seems to be on the whole the most satisfactory of the French varieties in most situations.



Placing our special Franquette strain in the ground, Salem, Oregon, April 14, 1906.



Men lined up in the field ready for planting, Salem, Oregon, Saturday, April 14, 1906.

REPORT OF JOHN A. MORRIS, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

Mr. J. S. Killian, who owns a 240 acre walnut ranch near El Monte, only a part of which is in full bearing, was the one who brought the largest load on a single wagon to the station for shipment. The number of bags of nuts was 103 and the weight 10,530 lbs. The broker at the station gave him a check for \$1368.90 for the burden which five stout ranch horses pulled across the sandy roads to the train. This was only a part of Killian's nuts, as he has been one of the heaviest shippers.

Before walnuts were introduced in this section, the land was worth \$100 an acre for vegetable growing. Now it sells for ten times as much, and the very lowest price asked for walnut land is \$500 an acre.

NO OTHER VARIETIES IN THE VROOMAN ORCHARD TO CROSS-FERTILIZE.

An important point in connection with our special strain of Franquette walnuts, and one that should not be lost sight of by the planter of second generation trees, is that no other variety is grown in this orchard, to cross fertilize, thus insuring a pure Franquette strain; and notwithstanding that the orchard is not subject to being fertilized by the pollen of other varieties, it has annually borne a good crop of nuts since the second year, thus proving conclusively the self-fertility of the Franquette; insuring the purity of the strain being transmitted to the second generation trees and also the bearing of large crops annually. These are two very essential points and fully as important as hardiness, uniformity and flavor.

PLANT THE WALNUT.

From an address by Luther Burbank, the famous creator of new varieties of fruits and flowers, before the California State Fruit Grower's Convention held at Santa Rosa, Fall of 1905.

"When you plant another tree, why not plant the Walnut? Then, besides sentiment, shade and leaves, you may have a perennial supply of nuts, the improved kind of which furnish the most delicious, nutritious and healthful food which has ever been known. The consumption of nuts is probably increasing among all civilized nations today faster than that of any other food, and California should keep up with this increasing demand and make this increase still more rapid by producing nuts of uniform good quality, and with an increase in the health and rapid and permanent increase in the wealth of ourselves and neighbors.

Central and Northern California are just waking up to the fact that no better walnuts have ever been produced than those grown right here, and from one large orchard of the Franquette (Vrooman grove) the nuts have so far brought 18 to 20 cents per pound or even more, by the ton, when walnuts from anywhere else were selling at from 9 to 14 cents per pound."

CULTIVATION.

Cultivate the soil thoroughly by ploughing and frequent use of the cultivator and harrow. While we see no objection in growing a crop of potatoes or beans in the center, between the rows of trees, to pay for the work, we would caution the planter to keep in mind the real object that is to grow a healthy, thrifty and well developed orchard.

PRUNING.

In pruning, one can regulate in a strong measure the growth, symmetry of a tree, and its bearing capacity.

To those well initiated in such work, we would advise pruning little merely open the center of the tree to allow the air and sunlight to penetrate throughout the tree. Where much wood growth occurs after the tree is capable of bearing nuts, reduce by cutting the new wood off outside limbs.

HARVESTING AND MARKETING.

The nuts should be allowed to remain on the tree until they are fully ripened. When gathering, it is considered a good method to go through the orchard, shaking every tree lightly in order to get only the ripe nuts, when through, repeat the operation from the place of beginning until the crop is gathered, this usually takes from three to four weeks.

Care should be taken that nuts are taken out of the hull or outer shell, each day as gathered, washed and rinsed out thoroughly, then cure by spreading on trays in the sun or by artificial heat at from 100 to 115 degrees Fahrenheit. When properly cured they will not turn rancid. Then store away in a cool, dry clean place until ready to sack up for market. If treated as above, the nuts will retain their clean, natural color, and the flavor be exquisite. To prepare for market, use nut sacks, these usually hold 100 to 110 pounds, grade nuts by passing them over a sized screen.

FOR THE WEARY TRAVELER.

There is nothing so appealing to grateful thought, and which gives a country such an air of gracious fellowship and hospitality as avenues lined with good, large, well kept fruit trees, with no fence nor printed sign to prevent man from helping himself to wholesome, strengthening fruit while resting in the cool, inviting shade of its bountiful bearer. The walnut trees grow to a large size, its foliage is most luxuriant, its shade cooling; it attains a great age, bears fruit that drops but does not spoil, is not afflicted by pests, therefore its planting should be encouraged both for profit and for the public good.

PLANTING THE FRANQUETTES, APRIL 14, 1906.

We believe the planting of these walnuts on Saturday, April 14, 1906, marks a new epoch in the history of walnut growing on the Pacific coast.

The planting was made under the most favorable auspices. The sight of 5,000 pounds of these beautiful nuts had certainly a stimulating effect on the visitors present to witness the exercises, and all were agreed that the future of walnut growing was assured, with such a fine and distinct strain to draw from.

The nuts were planted in the best of our Salem prairie soil; the trees will have every attention that can be given in cultivation and care to establish a perfect root system, and will be ready for delivery as one year old trees, after the first of October this year.

PRICES.

Orders received will be booked in their order of arrival at our office. Those first arriving will be supplied first and others in their order, until the stock is exhausted.

One year trees, \$30 per hundred. A discount of 15 per cent. from 100 rates will be given in lots of 500 or over.

Orders entrusted to our regular authorized agents will receive the same attention as if sent direct to our office.

If you do not receive a call from our representatives, send your orders direct to us.

OREGON NURSERY CO., LTD.

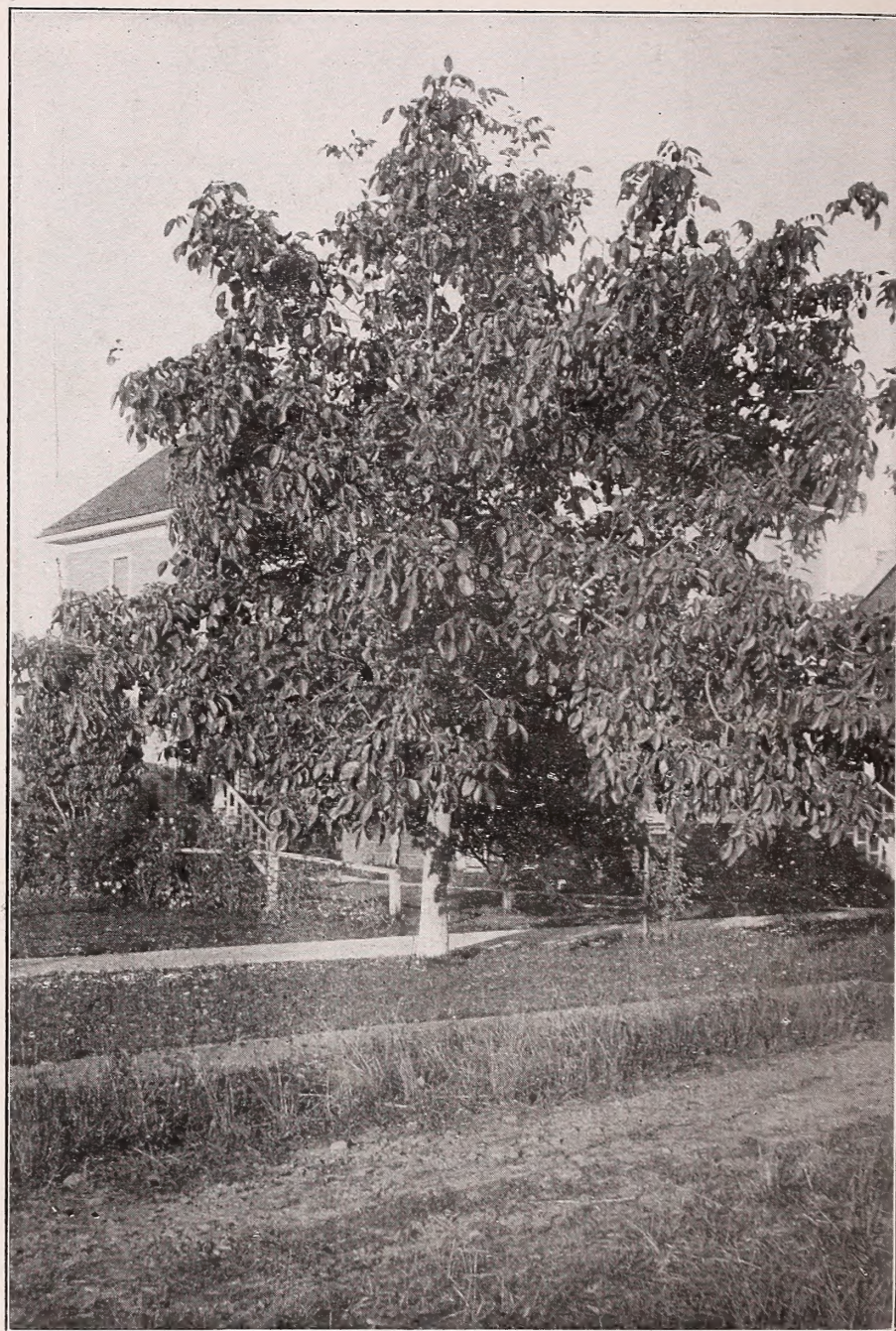
Salem, Oregon.



Mrs. E. M. Vrooman's 55 acre Franquette walnut orchard. These trees are now seven years old; have borne fruit since the second year. Notice the size, symmetrical form of the trees and abundant fruit spurs. The most productive grafted, young orchard of the best marketable nut known, the exquisite and sure-bearing Franquette.

To the would-be Walnut-orchardist we would say: Enter upon your task with enthusiasm, tireless vigilance and ready adaptability. There lies before you a possible and very profitable rich harvest of those joyful hours of pleasant labor well rewarded, and a harvest of golden ducats, and a strong clear conscience that your world is the richer for your efforts.

Mrs. E. M. VROOMAN.
Oakland, Cal., Dec. 18, 1905.



An Oregon Walnut Tree.